

Role of MRC in Hunterdon County's Home Quarantine/Isolation Planning

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Hunterdon County, New Jersey

Population: 129,746

Hunterdon County Facts

- **10 Wealthiest Counties in 2004**

1. Somerset County, NJ
2. Fairfax County, VA
3. Fairfield County, CT
4. Morris County, NJ
5. ***Hunterdon County, NJ***

- ***3rd highest case rate of Lyme disease of all counties in the United States***

Weird Facts

- **“Crime of the Century” January 2, 1935**
 - Bruno R. Hauptman was tried for fatal kidnapping of Col. Charles Lindberg’s son, found guilty, and electrocuted
- **Jayson Williams homicide case**
 - February 14, 2002
 - NBA basketball player shot and killed his limo driver inside his 65-acre estate in Hunterdon County

Hunterdon County Influenza Pandemic Workplan

Mission – To minimize the loss of life and human suffering resulting from an influenza pandemic while working on maintaining the operation of essential community services

Response Partners

- Public Health
- Law Enforcement
- Infection Control Practitioners
- Hunterdon Medical Center
- Office of Emergency Management
- Emergency Medical Services

Planning Challenges

- First Responder Prophylaxis Program
- Medication/Vaccine Distribution
 - Entire county population
- Fixed Facility Program
- Home Quarantine/Isolation Support Program

First Responder Distribution Plan

Mission:

To get oral medications into the bloodstream of Hunterdon County first responders and their household members within 48 hours to assure their protection and continuation of their essential services

First Responder Groups – Tier 1

- Public health (including MRC volunteers)
- OEM
- Law enforcement
- Paid and volunteer firefighters
- Rescue squad members
- Elected “policy makers”



Initial Effort

- Worked with each 26 municipalities thru the OEM Coordinators to take lead in obtaining data
- Drugs included on form to be completed by first responders protect against specific agents including anthrax and plague
- They are not protective against avian flu
- However, information gathered on forms will support flu pandemic planning (in event we need to distribute antivirals or avian flu vaccine)

**HUNTERDON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
FIRST RESPONDER REGISTRATION FORM**
(To be completed by all First Responders)

First Responder Agency: _____

If you are a member of more than one First Responder agency, then please complete only one registration form.

First Responder: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Please complete and return this form to the designated person in your agency. The information will support public health emergency planning efforts designed to protect first responders and their immediate household members. All completed forms will be held in a file at your agency. In the case of a bioterrorism attack involving agents such as anthrax or plague, emergency medications **ciprofloxacin** (CIPRO) and **doxycycline** (DOXY) would rapidly be made available to all first responders from a governmental drug stockpile. During such an emergency, almost all individuals would be able to take either drug. Possible reasons not to take either drug would include a **known, prior allergy or severe reaction** to either drug. If this is the case for any of your family members, please note that below. If family members have never taken the drugs please do not check below. An additional possible reason to avoid taking either drug is pregnancy, which would need to be evaluated at the time of the emergency.

The information provided on this form will also be used by local and state public health agencies to plan for emergency vaccination clinics related to other manmade or naturally occurring threats including smallpox and avian influenza.

List First Responder and names of all other household members (Please use 1 line for each person)	Check the box only if there is a known allergy/ severe reaction to:	
	CIPRO (A)	DOXY (B)

If needed, continue to list names of all other household members (1 line per person please)	Check the box only if there is a known allergy/ severe reaction to:	
	CIPRO (A)	DOXY (B)

First Responder's Signature: _____ Date _____

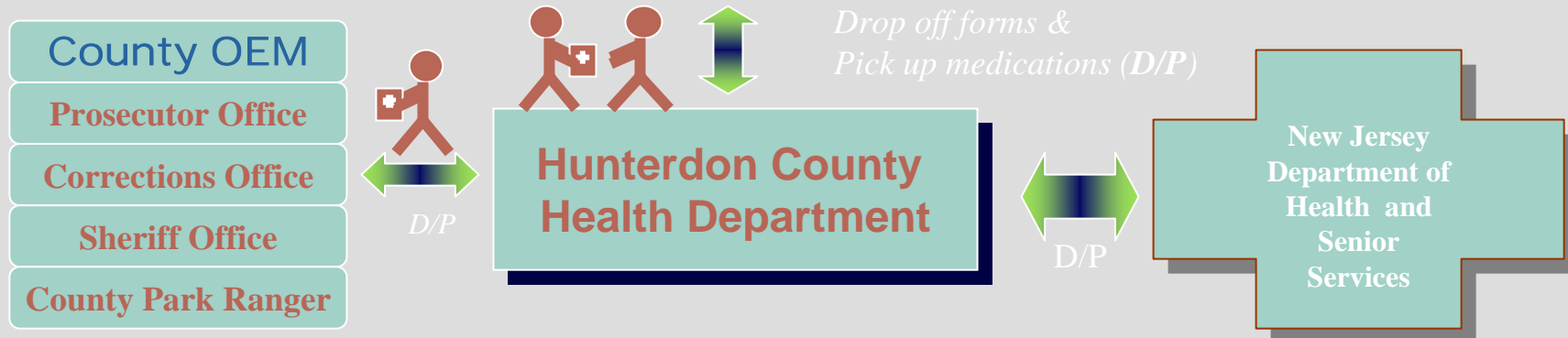
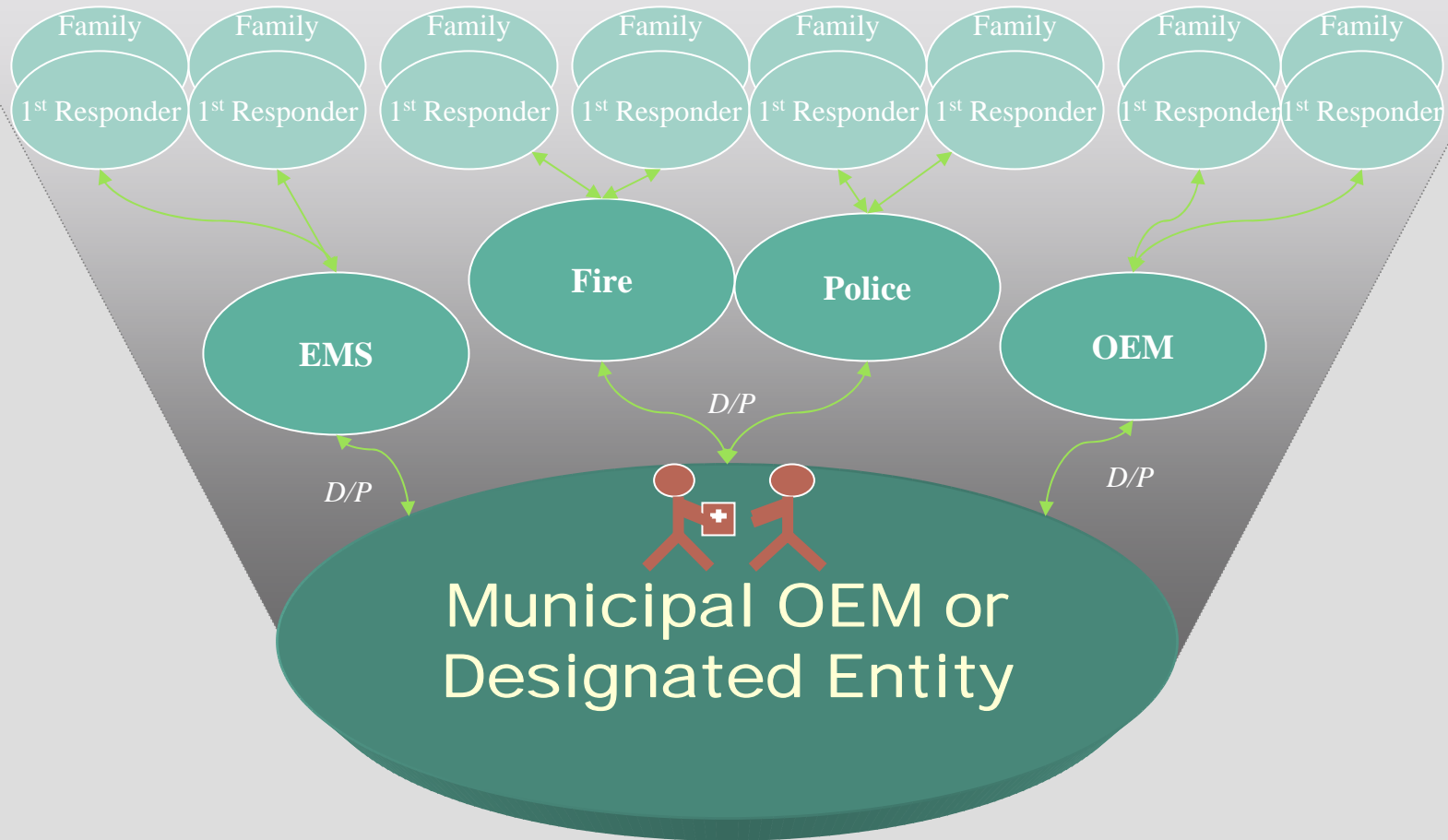
Responder Agency Responsibilities

- Identify first responders and household members
- Ensure all responders complete and return questionnaire form
- Complete agency summary form (which totals number of responders/household members and medications needed)
- Distribute medications to responders if requested
- Identify operational sites, resources, equipment and personnel needed to execute plan

Municipal Responsibilities

- Collect summary forms from each agency
- Complete aggregate form for municipality
 - County HD only gets **ONE** form per municipality
- Distribute medications to each responder agency if requested
- Identify operational sites, resources, equipment and personnel needed to execute plan

HUNTERDON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER DISTRIBUTION FLOW PLAN



MRC Roles

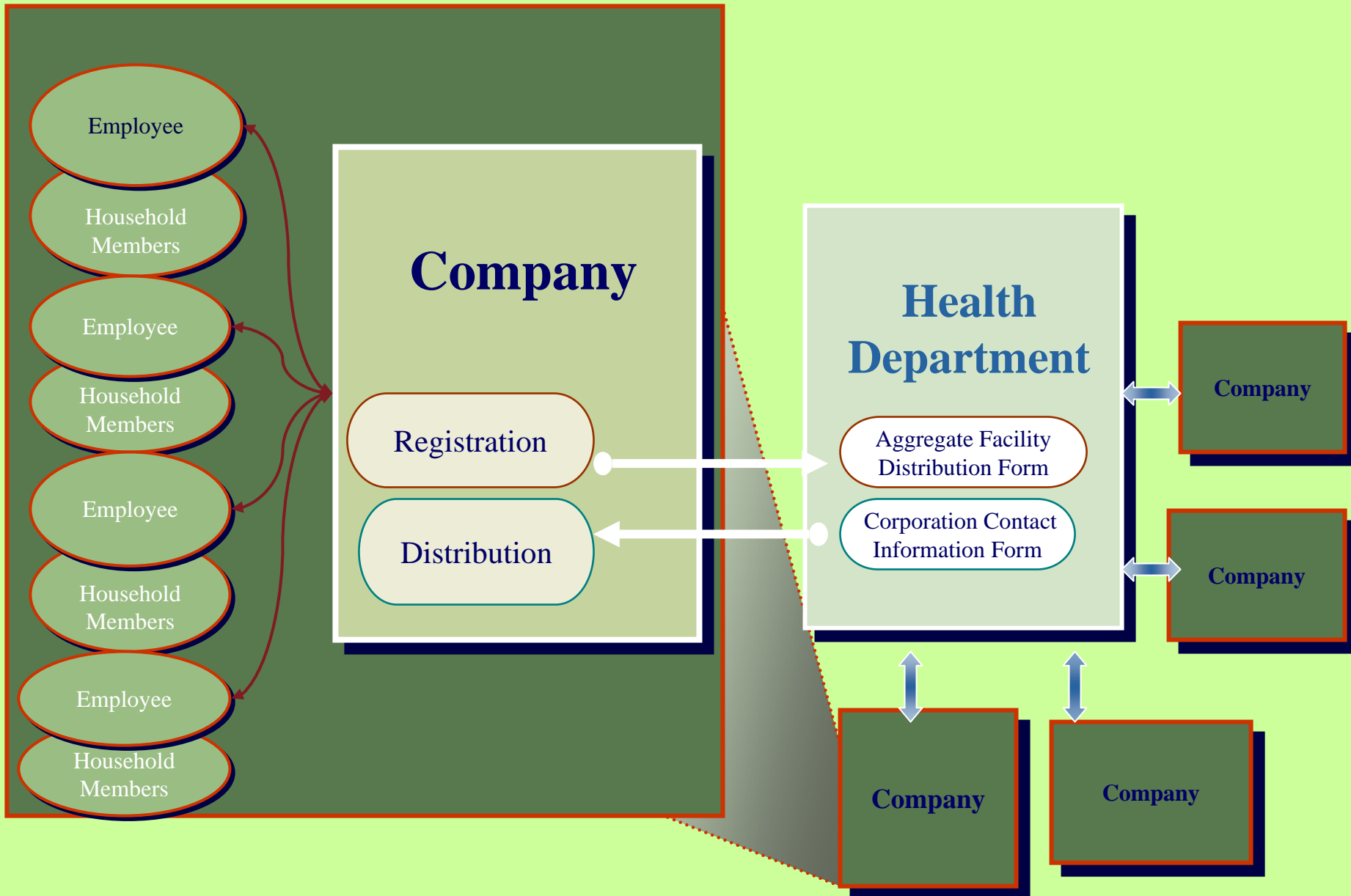
- Set up distribution site, direct traffic
- Unpack and count medications
- Assist in contacting designated municipal representatives
- Assist in verifying representative
- Sign out medications
- Track medications
 - Report medication inventory



Fixed Facility Plan

- Partnership with businesses who have more than 100 employees
- Autonomous medication/vaccination sites for employees/household members
 - Businesses responsible for dispensing meds to employees
- Non-autonomous vaccination sites (facility set-up/MVT administer doses)
 - MVT= mobile vaccination team

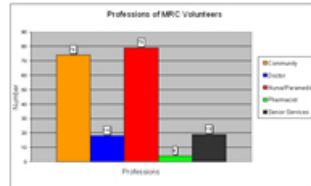
Fixed Facilities Flow Plan



Mobile Vaccination Teams

- MRC Volunteers divided into regions within the county
 - Volunteers sorted by specialty (nurses, physicians, pharmacists, non-medical)
- Deployed to vaccination sites based on location to their homes
- These same zones will be used in home quarantine /isolation support program

Distribution of the Hunterdon County Medical Reserve Corps (2006)



Note: Among the 194 volunteers for the Hunterdon County Medical Reserve Corps, only those with residencies in the Hunterdon County will be shown in this map. There are 17 non-Hunterdon residents in the MRC.

0 1.5 3 6 9 12 Miles

Public Vaccination Sites (Countywide)

- Drive thru venues
 - All banks, fast food places, etc...
- Walk-in clinics
 - “POD” scenario
- Private doctors offices
 - Working on agreement with offices where HD will give meds directly to offices to give out to their patients

Home Quarantine/Isolation Support Plan

- Support for families under quarantine or isolation

Quarantine = those exposed but not sick

Isolation = those who are showing symptoms

Self-Sufficiency is Goal

- During time of widespread disease, federal and state level resources will be stretched
- Local communities will be largely on their own in supporting homebound families
- It will be one important part of controlling the spread of infection

Home Support

Things that families or individuals will need
in order to remain at home

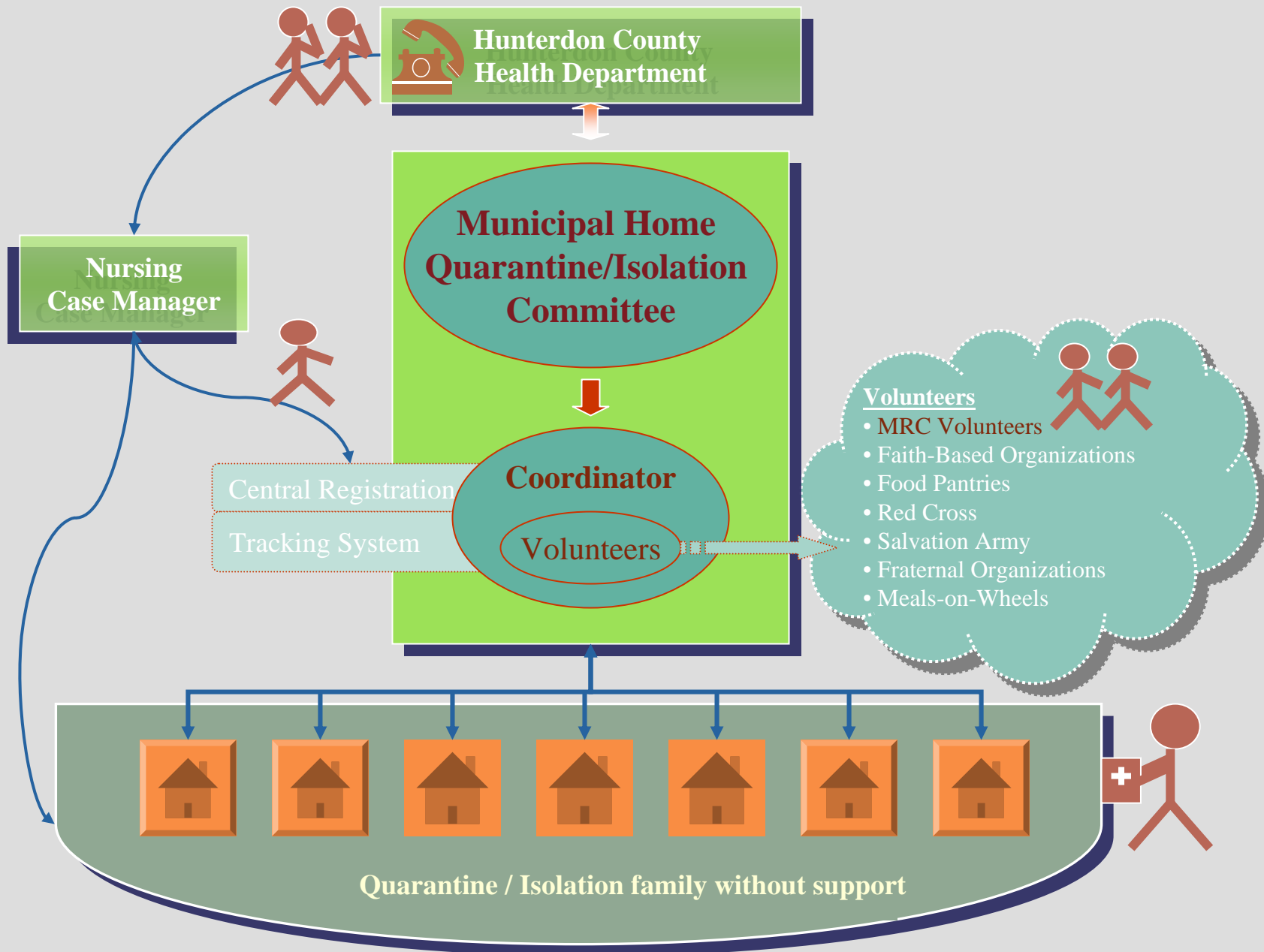
- Essential goods (food, soap, paper goods, etc.)
- Banking
- Infection control guidance
- Masks, tissues, hand hygiene products, OTC items
- Prescriptions refilled

Municipal Resources

- Public employees/Board members
- Faith-based organizations
- Food pantries
- Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Fraternal organizations
- Meals on Wheels
- Others?

Letters of understanding can formalize plans

HUNTERDON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY HOME QUARANTINE / ISOLATION SUPPORT FLOW PLAN



MRC Responsibilities

- Report to Health Department staging area to help divide medications, vaccine and other supplies to be distributed out to municipalities
- Operate phone bank
 - Municipal contacts will be calling in to acknowledge activation of program and to find out details on medication pick-up

MRC Assistance

- Act as nursing case manager tracking cases in each municipality
- Assist municipality to coordinate resources
- Assist in central registration in each municipality
- Volunteer in the community to support homebound families with essential supplies (i.e. food, water, prescription refill)

Education and Information

- Provide educational materials on infection control in the homes and proper respiratory etiquette guidelines
- Distribute education and instruction sheets
 - Reinforce medical instructions
 - Assist in Question/Answer session at the distribution site

MRC Responsibilities (non-medical)

- Education in the community on personal family preparedness: pre-event
 - Ready Together NJ Guides
 - Respiratory Protection Guidelines
- Phone Bank
 - Answering calls from public about Avian Influenza or other diseases outbreaks

MRC Responsibilities (Healthcare Professionals)

- Nurses and physicians will be assigned to one of the 26 municipalities in the county
 - Answer questions related to meds or vaccine
 - Call-in system of checking on sick residents in the municipality to determine degree of illness and hospitalization need

Future Challenges

- Allocation of jobs during an emergency within existing HD structure
 - One staff member doing many jobs
 - **Who** will fit into **what** role
- Managing volume of volunteers in MRC
 - Segmentation of volunteers
- Countywide exercise to test surge capacity
 - Summer/Fall 2006



Questions??

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